

The Universe in the Qurān

Allāh created the seven skies and the earth through His command “Be” and everything came into existence. The creation took place in six days or stages. After the creation, Allāh asked the earth and the skies to obey its rules willingly or unwillingly. They decided to obey willingly. “He turned straight to the sky, while it was a smoke, and said to it and to the earth, “Come (to My obedience), both of you, willingly or unwillingly.” Both said, “We come willingly”. (Qurān 41:11)

Allāh had created the heavens and the earth closed together and then expanded it. “Did the disbelievers not observe that the heavens and the earth were closed, then We opened them? And We created from water every living thing. Would they still not believe?” (21:30) The Bing Bang Theory does borrow some of its ideas from here.

Allāh keeps expanding the universe. “The sky was built by Us with might; and indeed We are the expanders.” (51:47)

He made the sun like a lamp that shines with its own hot light and the moon that just shines without burning hot. Unlike it, the moon just emits light without burning. It is quite cool for the non-scientists obviously, and for the scientists when they compare the -233 to 123 C temperature range of the moon with the 5500 C of the sun’s surface. “Glorious is the One who made stellar formations in the sky, and placed a lamp (i.e. the sun) and a bright moon in it.” (Qurān 25:61)

The sun keeps moving in its Allāh-prescribed path in the Milky Way galaxy. “The sun is quickly proceeding towards its destination. That is the designing of the All-Mighty, the All-Knowing.” (36:38)

Similarly, Allāh has ordained the path for the moon and He keeps varying its shape for the human viewers according to His rule. “For the moon We have appointed measured phases.” (36:39)

The sun and the moon cannot digress from their Allāh-ordained orbits. They cannot cross over to the other’s orbit. In the same way, a well-known visible effect of their motions – the days and the nights – cannot diverge from Allāh’s rules. And all these rules apply for every other celestial body as well as the earth. “Neither can the sun cross over to the moon’s path, nor can the night outpace the day. Each one is floating in an orbit.” (36:40)

For a detailed idea, read the authoritative book "The Bible, Quran and Science" by a French doctor and scholar Maurice Bucaille. Its last chapter that talks about the hadiths is not up to the mark. However, the rest is ok.

Comparison of Science with the Quran

First, know that science as it stands today is a mixture of some knowledge, more ignorance and plenty of arrogance. Most of the theories in science are mere conjectures or, you may say, a string of well-connected thoughts which keep getting refuted by the newer generations. If Copernicus can disprove Archimedes' thoughts on universe, and if Einstein can show the feebleness of the once mighty laws of Newton – the pillars of science –, then what is the guarantee that the established, proved and irrefutable science of today will not get debunked by the geniuses of tomorrow? Thus science stands on a hollow base, feeble and shaky. Its grand structure always lies on the brink of collapse. And you will get enough evidence for each one of this in science books themselves.

Ever saw a game of chess being played? Suppose, some men with no prior knowledge of chess watch a video of a game of chess being played between two men. If the spectators are interested enough and sufficiently intelligent, they can "guess" what the different pieces can do. They may form a common nomenclature for the different pieces and come out with rules. On watching the queen move a step forward, a spectator may say that the queen is like a pawn. Later, the second will disprove him with his latest "observation". He will say that the queen can move any number of steps on the board but only vertically, not horizontally. The third will come up with a grand theory that the queen can move anywhere on the board in any direction. The fourth will say, "No, only right, left, up, down or diagonally." All feel baffled when a less frequent rule of the pawn becoming queen is observed. They all disappear into their studies to come up with the next GRAND theory while their believers and fans wait with baited breaths.

And imagine what these refuters of predecessors will say when a rare but complicated rule like Castling is observed. [This](#) will give you an idea about how complicated it is.

There is an internationally recognized body (maybe more than one) which makes, keeps, or modifies chess rules. One day, these spectators who can only see the two players playing the chess on video may come up with the Universal Theory of Chessology, and win all the big awards and get all the media publicity. According to the theory, the rule-making body does not exist because it can not be shown in the video. They have seen the game replayed 2050 times. Why is it never visible if it really exists? To all those who "claim" there is a rule-making body, they have the standard scientific answer: "Show it in the video. We have proves for all our theories and laws. We can show through video replays. You also show on the video."

This is an illustration. Scientists are like the mutually refuting genius spectators. The limited knowledge of scientists is like these spectators' knowledge of a single chess game. The scientists observe the universe for a few decades, and learn their predecessors' knowledge spanning over a few centuries.

Then, they set out refuting everything they don't know. With this paltry knowledge, they claim to decipher the laws and rules for the universe billions of times older than them and i-don't-know-how-many-illions of times larger than their minuscule brains. Then there is the chess-governing international body which these ignorant scientists don't see and hence for them, the existence of this body is a mere "superstition." For others, the very existence of the game, and the existence of well-formed, logical rules being followed in the game is enough evidence for the existence of the creator and maintainer of the rules and the game.

On the other hand, there is the Quran, the Last Book of Allah Who created the earth and the heavens and who honored men above all other creatures, though most of them do not realize this. He sent the Quran and promised to preserve it in its original form till the last day: "We have sent the Book of Reminder and We will preserve it." (Quran 15:19) Here, we indicate majesty of the speaker, not the plurality in number. Even the English Kings and Queens have used this form of speech.

The same All-Knowing Allāh earlier revealed the books Torah (Pentateuch), Zabur (Psalms), Injil (Gospels), etc. But unlike the last book, the Qurān, he made the humans responsible for their preservation. The weak humans failed and so we today have the highly adulterated forms of these books. No one knows how much of those books is original and how much the additions, revisions and modifications of the "wise" men of later years. So, whatever is in the Qurān is the Truth from the One Who Knows. Just like the authoritative instructions in the manufacturer's guidebook regarding a cell phone, the Qurān's information is authoritative and authentic with $\pm 0\%$ probability of error. All other sources of information may or may not be correct.

But do you honestly expect the manufacturer's guidebook to tell all the principles of Physics and Chemistry, the laws of economics and greed that went into the manufacture of the phone with those constituents having those capabilities and produced in the specific quantity in the specific location? Certainly not. These knowledges do exist. And the phone makers know these better than the 1-hour lecturers of Physics, Chemistry and Economics. Yet they do not write. Because the book is meant for all the users, and for all the users, these informations are useless. The same way, the holy Qurān was sent to guide the humans in practical life, to tell them of the purpose of their life and of their final destination: Fire or Paradise. Whatever information about the universe comes in the way is meant for people of all ages, all professions and all intellectual levels. So, you cannot expect the Qurān to give details of how many atoms per gram are there in air, nor can you expect your igno-arrogant scientists to describe what happens to us after death.